

REMARKS

Applicant notes again that this restriction is without traverse; however, Applicant respectfully points out that the relationship of the claim groups is mischaracterized on page 2 of the Action, in paragraph 3. It is said in the Action that "Inventions Group I and Group II are related as combination and subcombination.

In fact, however, the claim groups are fully independent and their coverage is overlapping — not nested, as would be required for combination and subcombination. Considering claims 1 and 18, for example, there are two separate reasons, either one of which would be sufficient, for recognizing that claim 18 is not a subcombination of claim 1:

- (1) Claim 18 contains limitations not contained in claim 1. In particular, claim 18 recites that the invention will "substantially compensate for any nonzero chroma" in the printed nominally gray ramp.

Claim 1, by contrast, says nothing about nonzero chroma, and nothing about substantially compensating for nonzero chroma. Thus claim 18 cannot be a subcombination of claim 1.

- (2) Claim 1 is a method claim, and claim 18 is an apparatus claim. Applicant respectfully submits that at least in principle an apparatus cannot be a subcombination of a method.

Furthermore these observations highlight another misstatement in the Official Action, which says that "Claims 1-17 and 26-27 [are] drawn to a . . . printing

device" Claim 1 is in fact drawn to a method, not to any kind of device.

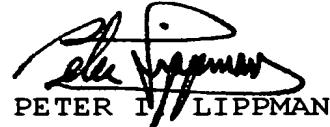
Hence the claim groups are even further remote from one another than indicated in the Official Action.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing restriction and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner's favorable consideration and allowance of all the claims to which this case has now been restricted.

It is respectfully requested that, should there appear any obstacle to allowance of the claims herein, the Examiner telephone the undersigned attorney to try to resolve the obstacle.

Respectfully submitted,



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